

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A three-wheeled vehicle for road use, comprising:
  - a frame having a front portion, a rear portion, and a longitudinal centerline;
  - a pair of front wheels supported at the front of the frame on either side of the longitudinal centerline, each of the front wheels having tires mounted thereon suitable for road use;
  - a single rear wheel supported at the rear of the frame, the rear wheel having at least one tire mounted thereon suitable for road use;
  - a power source supported by the frame between the front wheels and the rear wheel and operatively coupled to one of the wheels for driving the wheel;
  - a seat supported by the frame defining a seat reference point;
  - a footrest extending outwardly from the frame at a position below the seat reference point; and
  - a steering mechanism supported by the frame and operatively coupled to the front wheels for turning the front wheels,
  - wherein the steering mechanism is disposed a first longitudinal distance from the footrest and is disposed a second longitudinal distance from the seat reference point.
2. The vehicle of claim 1, wherein the first longitudinal distance is between about 51 mm and 1092 mm.
3. The vehicle of claim 2, wherein the first longitudinal distance is about 602 mm.
4. The vehicle of claim 1, wherein the second longitudinal distance is between about 470 mm to 1143 mm.
5. The vehicle of claim 4, wherein the second longitudinal distance is about 813 mm.
6. The vehicle of claim 1, wherein the seat includes a driver seat portion and a passenger seat portion, wherein the passenger seat portion has a passenger seat reference point.
7. The vehicle of claim 1, wherein the steering mechanism is disposed a third longitudinal distance from the passenger seat reference point.
8. The vehicle of claim 7, wherein the third longitudinal distance is between about 686 mm to 1410 mm.
9. The vehicle of claim 8, wherein the third longitudinal distance is about 1145 mm.
10. A three-wheeled vehicle for road use, comprising:
  - a frame having a front portion, a rear portion, and a longitudinal centerline;
  - a pair of front wheels supported at the front of the frame on either side of the longitudinal centerline having a tire suitable for road use mounted on each front wheel;

a single rear wheel supported at the rear of the frame having at least one tire suitable for road use mounted on the rear wheel;

a power source supported by the frame between the front wheels and the rear wheel and operatively coupled to one of the wheels for driving the wheel;

a seat supported by the frame defining a seat reference point;

a footrest extending outwardly from the frame at a position below the seat reference point; and

a steering mechanism supported by the frame and operatively coupled to the front wheels for turning the front wheels,

wherein the steering mechanism is disposed a first vertical distance from the ground, the seat reference point is disposed a second vertical distance from the ground, and the footrest is disposed a third vertical distance from the ground.

11. The vehicle of claim 10, wherein the seat includes a driver seat portion and a passenger seat portion, wherein the passenger seat portion has a passenger seat reference point.

12. The vehicle of claim 10, wherein the first vertical distance is between about 686 mm to 1143 mm.

13. The vehicle of claim 12, wherein the first vertical distance is about 905 mm.

14. The vehicle of claim 10, wherein the second vertical distance is between about 457 mm to 927 mm.

15. The vehicle of claim 14, wherein the second vertical distance is about 739 mm.

16. The vehicle of claim 10, wherein the third vertical distance is between about 152 mm to 483 mm.

17. The vehicle of claim 16, wherein the third vertical distance is about 243 mm.

18. A three-wheeled vehicle for road use, comprising:

a frame having a front portion, a rear portion, and a longitudinal centerline;

a pair of front wheels supported at the front of the frame on either side of the

longitudinal centerline;

a tire suitable for road use mounted on each front wheel;

a single rear wheel supported at the rear of the frame;

at least one tire suitable for road use mounted on the rear wheel;

a power source supported by the frame between the front wheels and the rear wheel and operatively coupled to one of the wheels for driving the wheel;

a seat supported by the frame defining a seat reference point;

a footrest extending outwardly from the frame at a position below the seat; and  
a steering mechanism supported by the frame and operatively coupled to the front wheels for turning the front wheels,

wherein an angle between the seat reference point and the footrest measured from the handlebar is within a predetermined range.

19. The vehicle of claim 18, wherein the angle is between about 19 degrees to 59 degrees.

20. The vehicle of claim 19, wherein the angle is about 36.5 degrees.

21. A three-wheeled vehicle for road use, comprising:

a frame having a front portion, a rear portion, and a longitudinal centerline;

a pair of front wheels supported at the front of the frame on either side of the

longitudinal centerline;

a tire suitable for road use mounted on each front wheel;

a single rear wheel supported at the rear of the frame;

at least one tire suitable for road use mounted on the rear wheel;

a power source supported by the frame between the front wheels and the rear wheel and operatively coupled to one of the wheels for driving the wheel;

a seat supported by the frame defining a seat reference point;

a footrest extending outwardly from the frame at a position below the seat; and

a steering mechanism supported by the frame and operatively coupled to the front wheels for turning the front wheels,

wherein an angle between the handlebar and the footrest measured from the seat reference point is within a predetermined range.

22. The vehicle of claim 21, wherein the angle is between about 52.59 degrees to 120.37 degrees.

23. The vehicle of claim 21, wherein the angle is about 78 degrees.